

U. S. POSTAL CHECK NOTES.

Proposed for Convenience in Sending Money by Mail.

WITHOUT EXPENSE TO SENDER.

Washington, March 19.—Senator McMillan in the senate and Mr. Lentz in the house have introduced a bill designed to afford an easy and inexpensive means of transmitting money by mail. They provide that all United States and national bank notes, silver certificates and treasury notes of \$1, \$2 and \$5 denominations shall be replaced by new notes to be known as "United States post check notes." Fifty millions of United States notes of denominations below \$10 shall be replaced with a like amount of fractional post check notes of from 5 to 50 cents. The face and back of the notes are to make them "payable to payee named hereon" in place of the present inscription "payable to bearer on demand," and the face of the notes shall have a blank space to insert the name of a payee, with space for a receipt and stamp. The holder of any such post check, by inserting the name of a payee and affixing a postage stamp may forward the same by mail to the designated payee and it is redeemable at the post-office named. The checks are then to be cancelled and new checks issued.

The People Are Honest?

Topeka, March 20.—All of the agents of the Rock Island railway remit their daily receipts to the Central National bank at Topeka. In a year these remittances amount to about \$4,000,000. For a greater part come in checks, drafts, and other forms of credit money, received by the agents from customers. Said Banker Bonebrake: "In the past year I do not remember of receiving a single check, draft or other form of credit money that was not good or a forgery. It is wonderful that this great amount of paper could be handled without finding one bad check or one case of forgery. The people are honest, and scoundrels are few and far between."

Regulators in South Carolina.

Columbia, S. C. March 20.—The station agent and other citizens of Neesees, Orangeburg county, telegraphed the governor begging troops to protect them from white regulators who had twice visited the town, beat the people, white and black, and promised to return and kill them. Work on farms has been stopped and people driven from their business. The governor telegraphed the sheriff to ride across the country with a posse till troops could be sent. The cause of the lawlessness is unknown.

Population of Manila.

Washington, March 20.—The war department has received a report from the sanitary corps, which has been making a census of Manila. It places the population actually living in houses within the police district at 150,000. The Chinese population was turned in at 8,852. This is said to be far out of the way. It is estimated that at least 50,000 Chinese live in the city.

Disension Among Dutch.

London, March 20.—A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph company from Cape Town, says it has been decided to send only the Transvaalers to St. Helena, the authorities finding it difficult to prevent conflicts between the Free Staters and the Transvaalers. Colonel Schiel, who was captured in Natal in the early part of the war, has a special sentry at his door to prevent him from suffering bodily violence.

Taken To Frankfurt.

Louisville, Ky., March 19.—Officers started to Frankfurt with Secretary of State Powers, Captain John W. Davis, W. H. Culton and Harlan Whitaker, the four prisoners who are held as alleged accessories to the assassination of Governor Goebel. The men will be given a preliminary hearing at Frankfurt. Their departure was without incident.

Grand Canal Completed.

City of Mexico, March 20.—The Grand Canal, part of the valley of Mexico drainage system, was inaugurated with much ceremony. The work of draining the valley is now complete and it remains merely to construct the sewers of the city.

Japanese Coming Rapidly.

Vancouver, B. C., March 17.—The discontinuance of Japanese immigration to Hawaiian Islands has caused a great influx of Japanese to this port, an army of them arriving by every oriental steamer. Four hundred arrived today, having been passengers from Yokohama by the steamship Glenogle.

Survival Of The Sound.

Denver, March 20.—If the Union Pacific goes down the line with its dismissals of employees, as at present, not less than 30,000 men, some of them for twenty years in the service, will be taken from the ranks and new men employed by the system. A physical examination of Union Pacific employees is now being conducted at the shops. The same examination is being conducted very quietly in many of the larger cities along the route of the road.

CONGRESSIONAL NEWS.

What is Being Done in The Fifty-Sixth General Assembly.

MARCH FOURTEEN.
The financial bill was sent to the president and he has signed it.
Senators Platt (Ct.), Aldrich (R. I.) and Teller (Col.) have been appointed a sub-committee to visit Cuba.
Senator Foster introduced a bill for a government cable from some port in Washington to points on the Alaskan coast.

Mr. Fitzgerald introduced a joint resolution asking the secretary of the navy what prevents the government from building submarine ships.
Mr. Little (Ark.) has a bill providing for schooling of non-citizen children in Indian Territory by taxing non-citizen residents.

MARCH FIFTEEN.
Senator Jones (Ark.) offered a resolution of inquiry into charges of incompetency and inattention to duty made against the Indian territory tax commission.

The bill appropriating revenues collected in Puerto Rico, to the benefit of the people there, was taken up, when Senator Jones (Ark.) offered a substitute which brought on a lengthy discussion.

Senator Proctor (Wt.) introduced a bill to create a bureau of chemistry in the agricultural department to be charged with the regulation of adulteration.

The house passed bills to settle the title of real estate in the city of Santa Fe, New Mexico.

The District of Columbia appropriations consumed nearly the entire session of the house.

MARCH SIXTEEN.
The Senate held its fourth special forenoon session to introduce and read the Alaskan code bill. Its reading was finished.

A resolution offered by Senator Gallinger (N. H.) was agreed to calling upon members of the cabinet to report the number of clerks in their service.

An order asked for by Senator Hoar was made giving the date of final action on the contest case of Senator Allen.

Senator Allen offered an amendment to the Puerto Rican bill to give the constitution over Puerto Rico. It was tabled; 35 to 17.

The house passed the District of Columbia appropriation, carrying \$2,608,375.

The house passed the bill granting the Fort Hays military reservation to the state of Kansas.

MARCH SEVENTEEN.
All the amendments to the Puerto Rican appropriation bill were withdrawn or voted down and the bill passed without division.

The Senate committee on public buildings voted favorably the bill to increase the limit of the proposed building at Boise, Idaho, to \$300,000.

Among the new bills in the house is one setting apart lands in Arizona as a "petrified forest national park." Also one to recover to the United States the title to private holdings within forest reservations for natural parks.

The house committee on commerce favorably the bill to give the national guard an increase from \$400,000 to \$2,000,000.

Senator Beveridge offered a substitute for the tariff section of the Puerto Rican bill, pending for free trade with that island. His substitute also declares that the constitution is not extended over that island.

The Senate Indian committee will send a sub-committee to investigate Indian agents in Oklahoma.

The house sent the pension appropriation bill to conference committee.

The house non-concurred in the senate appropriation of revenues to Puerto Rico.

Mr. Stevens (Cal.) introduced a bill for the appointment of registers of land in Indian Territory.

MARCH EIGHTEEN.
Arrest of Divine Healer Truth.
Boston, March 19.—Francis Truth, head of the divine healing association which bears his name, and whose advocates have been spread over the whole country, was arrested at his office charged with using the mails for fraudulent purposes. The prisoner was locked up. A large amount of mail matter was seized by the officers.

Truth has been conducting the establishment for about six months and has had all the business he could attend to with the help of 23 clerks. He took his arrest very calmly and made no statement. Mrs. Truth was not molested. It is said that Truth belongs in California. It is said that his business brought him in \$30,000 a week regularly.

Delinquent Tax Accounts.
Topeka, March 20.—"At the beginning of 1895," says State Auditor Cole, "the delinquent state tax due from the counties was \$145,350. January 1, 1899 the total sum due the state was \$242,338. During 1899 there was paid on this account: \$153,523, leaving a balance of \$89,815 which is still due. In 1895 there were but thirty-four counties in the state which did not owe the state delinquent taxes. Now fifty-six counties have paid up in full, and the accounts are now balanced.

The counties as a rule are making prompt settlements and that part of the state's business is now in better shape than it has been for many years.

Discharging Chinamen.
Washington, March 20.—General Otis has rescinded instructions heretofore issued from the headquarters of the department of the Pacific permitting the employment of Chinese as litter or burden bearers for troops in the field or on the march. All Chinese still employed in the capacity will be discharged from the service.

Imitation Butter Bill Doubtful.
Washington, March 19.—Members of the agricultural committee of the house are expressing doubt that favorable action will be taken on the Great bill assessing a tax of 10 cents a pound on oleomargarine made in imitation of butter. The sub-committee is understood to be opposed to it, and the whole committee would probably take a like position, although the demand for its passage is general throughout the dairy sections of the country and all the Western members are receiving petitions asking for favorable action. It has been arranged to have final action on the measure decided by the whole committee.

Let Out a Faith Healer.
Wichita, March 20.—The committee on church conduct of the Southern Kansas Methodist conference took decided action against faith healing, and upon recommendation of Bishop Vincent expelled a Methodist minister from their ranks.

The presiding elder read his letter to the committee and recommended that he be relieved from duty. Bishop Vincent concurred, and accordingly Rev. Osborne's name was disconnected from the Methodist church.

VIOLATES ANTI-TRUST LAW.

Resolutions to Instruct Attorneys to Prosecute.

AIMED AT STANDARD OIL CO.

Washington, March 19.—Representative Fitzgerald of New York introduced the following resolution:

"Whereas, It appears a matter of public record that the Standard Oil Co. paid in the city of New York on March 15, 1900, the sum of \$17,000,000, this amount being an extra dividend in addition to the regular quarterly dividend of \$3,000,000; and

"Whereas, It is a matter of public record that this last dividend is \$5,000,000 in excess of the last quarterly dividend paid by this corporation; and

"Whereas, It is also a matter of public record that the price of kerosene oil, the sole means of lighting used by the middle and poorer classes of people, during the period of time between the declaration of these dividends was increased 3 cents per gallon, constituting a tax on every home in the land; therefore, be it

"Resolved, That, in the opinion of congress, this action of the Standard Oil company is in direct violation of the provisions of the Sherman anti-trust law and therefore punishable by fine and imprisonment, and the attorney general is hereby directed, in accordance with the provisions of that act, to direct the several district attorneys of the United States in their respective districts to institute proceedings to bring the above named violators of the laws to justice."

Chicago, March 17.—Rev. Edwin A. Schell, D. D., formerly general secretary of the Epworth league, has brought suit for \$25,000 damages against Rev. Charles Parkhurst of Boston, publisher of Zion's Herald; Rev. J. B. Jennings, western agent of the Methodist Book Concern, and Rev. Joseph Berry, editor of the Epworth Herald, for alleged conspiracy to oust him from his \$4,000 office. The trouble arose over royalties on the song book published by the Methodist book concern.

Maud S. Is Dead.
New York, March 20.—Maud S., the famous trotter, died at Schultz farm, Port Chester, N. Y. She was brought to the farm from New York a week ago and it was intended to use her for breeding purposes. She was sick when she arrived here and has been under the care of a veterinary surgeon. She gradually became worse and all efforts to save the life of the valuable animal were fruitless. Maud S. was owned by the Bonner estate and was 26 years of age. Her trotting record of 2:08 3/4 was made in 1885.

Increase of Circulation.
New York, March 20.—A majority of the national banks in New York have already made application to increase their circulation to the par value of the bonds deposited by them at Washington, and the necessary papers have in most cases been forwarded to the secretary of the treasury. It is estimated that the increase of circulation will amount to at least \$2,500,000.

Banker Sent To Prison.
Chicago, March 20.—George L. Magill, former president of the Avenue Savings bank, which collapsed in August, 1896, was convicted of receiving deposits knowing his institution was in an insolvent condition, and sentenced to the penitentiary for an indefinite term. He was also fined double the amount of the deposit received, the fine amounting to \$2,936.

Police Prevent a Labor Riot.
Chicago, March 20.—The presence of strikers, sympathizers and spectators numbering more than 1,000 in the vicinity of the Western Electric company's factory resulted in a riot call being sent to the Desplaines street police station. A wagon load of policemen hurried to the scene and prevented, it is believed, a serious attack on the non-union men employed by the electric company.

Severe Storm South and East.
Washington, March 17.—About eight inches of snow fell during the day on Thursday, followed by snow and hail during the night and Friday. Considerable of the early snow melted as it fell. The storm prevailed over most of the southern states east of the Mississippi, beginning in Louisiana.

Snow fell in north Texas where fruit trees are in bloom and vegetables just coming up. Wheat is no where injured as far as known.

At New York and throughout New Jersey snow and sleet fell for nearly twenty-four hours.

Irish Immigrants.
New York, March 20.—The steamship Oceanic arrived here with 500 Irish immigrants on board. About 300 of this number were girls. It was said at the barge office that every English vessel which would arrive here in the next few months would carry from 400 to 800 Irish men and women.

Most of the male immigrants said that they had left Ireland because they were afraid they were going to be drafted; not that they feared to fight, but that they objected to fighting the Boers.

COMPLETE MARKET REPORTS.

Kansas City.			
CATTLE—Common to heavy	3.50	@	5.35
HOES—Choice to heavy	4.50	@	5.97 1/2
WHEAT—No. 2	35 1/2	@	35 3/4
CORN—No. 2	25 1/2	@	25 3/4
RYE—No. 2	54	@	54
HAY—Choice timothy	10.00	@	10.50
BUTTER—Choice	7.25	@	7.50
EGGS—	23	@	23 1/2
Chicago.			
WHEAT—No. 1 red	67	@	68
CORN—No. 2	35 1/2	@	35 3/4
OATS—No. 2	23 1/2	@	23 3/4
St. Louis Live Stock.			
BEEVES	4.00	@	5.75
STOCKERS & FEEDERS	3.25	@	4.50
SOUTHERN STEERS	3.50	@	4.75
Cotton.			
Livepool	9 13-32	@	9 13-32
Galveston	9 13-32	@	9 13-32
Wichita Grain.			
WHEAT—Open	67 1/2	High	68 1/2
Low	66 1/2	Today	67 1/2
Close	67 1/2	Y'day	67 1/2
CORN—Open	25 1/2	High	25 3/4
Low	25 1/2	Today	25 3/4
Close	25 3/4	Y'day	25 3/4
OATS—Open	24 1/2	High	24 3/4
Low	24 1/2	Today	24 3/4
Close	24 3/4	Y'day	24 3/4
Live Stock.			
Wheat: May	3.75	@	4.17
Corn: May	3.75	@	3.75
Chicago Live Stock.			
BEEVES	4.10	@	5.55
COWS AND HEIFERS	2.00	@	4.70
STOCKERS & FEEDERS	3.00	@	4.50
CALFED BEEVES	3.75	@	5.00
HOES	5.00	@	5.10
SHEEP—Fair to choice	5.25	@	7.10

THE LATEST NEWS IN BRIEF.

Ohio's senate defeated a local option bill by a vote of 16 to 15.

The bubonic plague has made its appearance at Buenos Ayres.

Governor Tanner of Illinois is in Florida. He is said to be quite sick.

The Omaha Tent and Rubber company has lost its \$30,000 stock by fire.

The Transvaal appealed to Germany for mediation and Germany declined to interfere.

George Gould and C. P. Huntington are to meet in Texas to talk over railroad matters in the southwest.

Workmen on a military road in Puerto Rico have been paid 40 cents a day. They have struck for 50 cents.

Ex-Chief Justice of Kansas Albert H. Horton is dangerously sick with pneumonia at his home in Topeka.

Among the great amount of ammunition captured from the Boers were several boxes of explosive bullets.

Four thousand men are added to the 50,000 idle men in Chicago, by the closing of door and blind factories.

The Western Union Telegraph company is about to issue \$30,000,000 4 1/2 per cent, fifty year, refunding bonds.

American insurance applying for admission to Japan, did not follow Japan red tape and must amend their papers.

Professor Dean C. Worcester of Michigan University, has resigned. He is a member of the new Philippine commission.

The Rev. Thomas K. Beecher and Mrs. Foote Beecher Perkins, brother and sister of Henry Ward Beecher, died on the same day last week.

The Santa Fe management informs shippers that an average speed of 20 miles an hour between division terminals will be made by all stock trains this year.

Dealers in drugs have been making a great noise about the action of the department of agriculture in distributing free vaccine matter for the cure of blackleg in cattle.

F. O. Popenoe, the principal owner of the Topeka Capital has announced that the Capital would continue as a Christian daily indefinitely, but would resume the publication of all general news and matters of general interest to the people.

The American building at Paris is ready for occupancy; the first to be finished.

President Kruger's tears did not prevent his Boer soldiers from running away from Lord Roberts.

The new British war loan of \$150,000,000, was subscribed for, on the first day of its being offered, twenty times over.

The internal revenue bureau has ordered the law enforced which prohibits enclosing any prizes or premiums in packages of tobacco or cigarettes.

The Russian and French cable and telegraph systems, in Siberia, China and Indo-China, are to be connected.

General John L. Ewell, a hero of the civil war, died of old age, at Cleveland, Ohio.

The window glass workers of the whole country are planning to start co-operative plants, in competition with the Trust.

In Michigan the line was generally drawn on the temperance question in the village elections this month. The "wets" had a trifle the better of it.

The amount of national bank stock held by women in America is estimated at \$130,000,000, and the amount of private and state bank stock at \$137,000,000.

Fire at Redfield, Ia., completely wiped out all the business houses on the south side of Main street. The loss is estimated at \$20,000.

A gusher was struck at Tiffin, Ohio, which sent a stream six inches in diameter 150 feet high. The wind sprinkled the country with oil for 1 1/4—fourths of a mile.

FROM CRADLE TO GRAVE.

This Would Have Been Called Tyranny Not Long Ago.

Chicago, March 20.—Unless a body goes to its last resting place in a union made coffin, it will be refused burial in the cemeteries of Chicago and vicinity, if the plans of the labor unions to organize a gravediggers' union are carried out. Already they have compelled the placing of union labels on every cradle manufactured, and it is the avowed object of the unions to unionize everything from the cradle to the grave, inclusive.

To enforce the use of union coffins, the woodworkers, as soon as they have unionized the factories, will attempt to organize the gravediggers into a union and have them refuse absolutely to inter a body unless it is incased in a union made casket. It is estimated that there are about 150 gravediggers employed in the cemeteries of Chicago.

"We already have the union label on all cradles made," said Secretary John Lee, of the woodworkers, "and why should we not have union coffins and union gravediggers? It is to the interest of the laboring men to have everything used, from this cradle to the grave, union made. Other trades have brought about the use of union made underwear, the drinking of union beer, the smoking of union cigars, the consumption of union bread, and why should we not unionize our product?"

Gen. Wheeler in Washington.

Washington, March 19.—General Joe Wheeler is in the city. He gave General Corbin a brief description of the conditions in Luzon when he left. He insisted that the war was over and that nothing more was to be done except to run down a few guerrillas and irregulars. There was difficulty in this work, he said, and there was danger, too, but it was not "war." Ambuscades were frequent and it was not easy to tell whether the hidden force was strong or weak; three men had been mistaken for a company in some cases. The general said the troops were doing splendid work there. They were sound and healthy and in quite as good shape as they would be at home engaged in similar service. This was owing, in a measure to the excellent care for their men exhibited by the officers and to the watchful precautions of the staff of the army.

For New War Ships.

Washington, March 17.—The house committee on naval affairs reached a definite and final decision as to the number of warships to be authorized the forthcoming naval appropriation bill as follows:

Two seagoing coast line battleships of about 13,500 tons each, to cost approximately \$3,600,000 each; three armored cruisers of the highest practical speed and most powerful armor and armament, to cost approximately \$4,000,000 each; three protected cruisers, to cost about \$1,141,000 each.

It was determined not to provide any gunboats, in view of the opinion expressed by Secretary Long and Admiral Dewey that General Otis' recent purchases of serviceable boats of this character met present gunboat requirements.

Wages Too High in New York.

New York, March 19.—The American Tobacco company discharged its entire list of 500 employees, men and women, from the cigar factory at Fifty-second street and the East river, and it will move its plant to its factories in Richmond, Va., Baltimore, Cincinnati and Lancaster, Pa. Manager Gordon said: "Labor is too expensive here, and we can get it cheaper in the other places."

Naval Officers Dismissed.

Washington, March 17.—As a result of an investigation of affairs on the hospital ship Missouri, on her trip out from New York to Manila and then back to San Francisco, Quartermaster General Ludington has directed the dismissal from the transport service of Captain Dillon, master of the ship, and the third officer.

Hard Luck For Aguinaldo.

Manila, March 17.—Flores, Aguinaldo's secretary of war, has surrendered to General MacArthur. Aguinaldo's infant son, who was captured in November and who has been suffering from smallpox, is dead. Aguinaldo is supposed to be in Japan still.

Johannesburg Mines.

Paris, March 19.—The possibility of the Boers destroying the mines is causing some anxiety among French financiers, who hold one-third of the shares. The Gaulois devotes an article to the subject and calls upon the financiers of Europe to furnish the Boers with the means of resisting British invasion.

Trust Sustained By Court.

New York, March 20.—Justice Russell in the supreme court dismissed the claimant in the action brought by the John D. Park & Sons company, against the National Wholesale Druggists' association for an injunction restraining the defendant from refusing to sell the plaintiff corporation patent medicines, except on an agreement to maintain the rates set by the defendants at which the goods were to be retailed. Russell says the complaint does not present sufficient cause for action.

THE MORMONS DID IT.

WHAT WE OWE TO BRIGHAM YOUNG'S FOLLOWERS.

They Were the First to Put Into Operation the Idea of Irrigating Arid Regions—Has Grown Into Vast Proportions.

(Boise, Idaho, Letter.)

Criticism the Mormons as you will, they must be credited with the wonderful system of irrigation by which the wastes of the western states have been redeemed.

On July 24, 1847, Brigham Young and his little band of pioneers began the construction of the first irrigation canal ever built in the United States.

Irrigation made of Utah's desert wilderness the garden spot of America. It is doing as much for Idaho, where the mountains are so located that ample valleys, and plains of millions of acres, may be easily and economically watered.

On the Nile, in Italy, Spain and elsewhere in Europe, irrigation has prevailed for centuries. Indeed, 60 per cent of the world's breadstuffs and cereals are grown by irrigation.

Where "the vine-clad hills and citron groves" around Vesuvius in sunny Italy are found, a great population has been sustained for many thousand years—and the land has never worn out—its wonderful vitality being due to underlying strata of lava which by some curious chemistry renders the soil immortal.

Idaho's wonderfully productive soil covers lava strata deposited by volcanoes long ago extinct. The rejuvenation of the land results not alone from this lava, but from rich fertilizers annually brought to it by the irrigation waters. It is almost an aphorism that land is good where sage brush grows. Marvelous must therefore be the fertility of Idaho, for everywhere the green of the sage is seen. Wheat, corn, oats, barley, alfalfa, timothy, rye, flax, tobacco, broom corn, sorghum, sweet and Irish potatoes, beets, cabbages, hops, and fruits, such as prunes, apples, pears, plums, peaches, cherries, apricots, nectarines, grapes and all of the small bush products, grow profusely. Particularly do the apple, pear and prune attain to perfection in size and flavor.

Alex. McPherson of Boise City realized \$600 per acre from apples. Geo. L. Hall of Mountain Home sold \$300 worth of peaches from one acre. T. J. Phifer of Boise City realized \$900 from two acres of Italian prunes. Instances like these can be multiplied ad infinitum.

But Idaho does not depend entirely upon agriculture. Its mountains are filled with mining camps which furnish a home market for far more agricultural products than the state is now able to produce.

Snake River Valley contains about 3,000,000 acres and some of the finest pastoral scenes there presented are in the midst of gold placer mining operations. Many farmers there realize handsomely for work during spare hours—washing shining powdered gold from the river's bed.</